

MARYLAND AGRI-FACTS



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QUARTERLY AG SURVEY

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How many acres will be planted to corn? What will spring planting conditions mean for American agriculture? To gather reliable, objective information, the Maryland Agricultural Statistics Service (MASS) of the U.S. Department of Agriculture will be surveying farmers and ranchers for the June Agricultural Survey.

There is always speculation about each new crop season and agricultural producers are the main source for the facts. "If we speak up and answer the questions about the 2002 crop season, we can reduce uncertainty in the agriculture marketplace," says Hagner Mister, Secretary of Agriculture.

The Maryland Agricultural Statistics Service will be conducting the survey and a representative will contact local producers between May 10th and June 13th. This survey is particularly vital because it will provide the first clear indications of the potential production of major commodities in 2002.

The information gathered is widely used. Producers rely on the data to reach valid production, marketing, and investment decisions. Industry analysts, extension agents, and farm organizations use the information in a variety of ways that benefit farmers.

"We safeguard the confidentiality of all survey responses," Ray Garibay, State Statistician, says. "Information from individual operations is combined with other responses to provide the needed data." MASS works with farmers to provide meaningful, accurate, and objective statistics that help keep U.S. agriculture informed.

For a copy of the finished report or to obtain other agricultural statistics, visit the Maryland Agricultural Statistics Service website at www.usda.gov/nass/md or call 1-800-675-0295.

MD COUNTIES

ALLEGANY

Carolyn Ganoe

ANNE ARUNDEL

Richard Livingston

BALTIMORE

Grayson Bowers

CARROLL

Grayson Bowers

CECIL

Jacqui England

CAROLINE

Janice Russell

CHARLES

Robert Fastnaught

Jerry Shaw

DORCHESTER

Kay Spinnato

FREDERICK

Joyce Lewis
Shari Lewis

GARRETT

Carolyn Ganoe

HARFORD

Jacqui England

HOWARD

Grayson Bowers

KENT

Steve Westre
Jacqui England

MONTGOMERY

Richard Frounfelter

QUEEN ANNE'S

Steve Westre

ST. MARY'S

Robert Fastnaught

SOMERSET

Patsy Low

TALBOT

Janice Russell

WASHINGTON

Judy Koliopulos

WICOMICO

Patsy Low

WORCESTER

June Brandenburg

DE COUNTIES

KENT

Connie Szeffler

SUSSEX

Linda Sockrider

CROP PRODUCTION

This Crop Production Report is the results of the May Agricultural Yield Survey. We wish to thank the producers who help to make this report possible.

Maryland Agricultural Statistics Service



The winter wheat crop in Maryland is expected to yield an average of 65 bushels per acre, based on May 1st conditions. This average yield, combined with harvested acreage of 180,000 acres, translates to an overall production level of 11,700,000 bushels, 6 percent higher than 2001. The average yield is forecasted at two bushels per acre higher than last year's average of 63 bushels per acre. According to the Maryland Crop Progress and Condition Report, the condition of the winter wheat crop for the week ending May 5th was 32 percent excellent, 42 percent good, 20 percent fair, 6 percent

poor.

U.S. winter wheat production is forecast at 1.30 billion bushels, down 4 percent from 2001 to the lowest level since 1978. All classes of winter wheat are down from the previous year. Based on May 1 conditions, the U.S. yield is forecast at 43.1 bushels per acre, 0.4 bushels less than last year. Grain area totals 30.2 million acres, down 4 percent from last season.

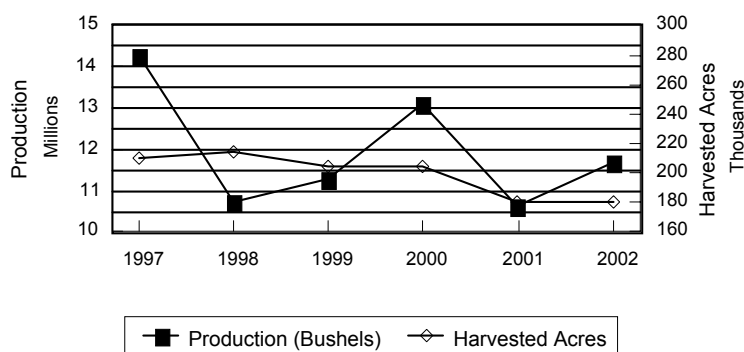
Winter Wheat Acreage and Production, MD, DE, and U.S., 2001-2002

	Harvested		Average Yield		Production	
	-----1,000-----		(Bushels)		(1,000 Bushels)	
	2001	2002 ¹	2001	2002 ¹	2001	2002 ¹
Delaware	57	58	61.0	67.0	3,477	3,866
Maryland	175	180	63.0	65.0	11,025	11,700
United States	31,295	30,174	43.5	43.1	1,361,479	1,300,726

¹ Forecast

WINTER WHEAT

HARVESTED ACRES AND PRODUCTION, MARYLAND, 1997-2002



FARM LABOR

There were 1.08 million hired workers on the Nation's farms and ranches during the week of April 7-13, 2002, up 6 percent from a year ago. There were 890,000 workers hired directly by farm operators. Agricultural service employees on farms and ranches made up the remaining 189,000 workers. Migrant workers accounted for 8.8 percent of the April hired work force compared with 8.9 percent in April 2001. Farm operators paid their hired workers an average wage rate of \$8.83 per hour during the April

2002 survey week, up 52 cents from a year earlier. Field workers received an average of \$8.06 per hour, up 45 cents from last April. Livestock workers earned \$8.43 per hour compared with \$8.01 a year earlier. The Field and Livestock worker combined wage rate was up 44 cents from last year.

FARM LABOR: EMPLOYMENT AND WAGE RATES, UNITED STATES, APRIL 07-13, 2002, WITH COMPARISON ¹

FARM EMPLOYMENT	APRIL 08-14, 2001	JANUARY 06-12, 2002	APRIL 07-13, 2002
THOUSAND			
Hired Workers	804	* 707	890
Expected to be Employed			
150 Days or More	627	* 584	722
149 Days or Less	177	* 123	168
Agricultural Services			
Workers Working on Farms	215	183	189
Hired Farm & Service Workers	1,019	* 890	1,079
PERCENT			
Migrant Workers Percent of Hired Farm & Service Workers	8.9	7.6	8.8
HOURS PER WEEK			
Hours Worked Hired	40.2	* 38.5	40.2
DOLLARS PER HOUR			
Wage Rates for			
All Hired Workers ^{2 3}	8.31	* 8.97	8.83
Type of Worker			
Field & Livestock Combined	7.71	* 8.23	8.15
Field	7.61	8.25	8.06
Livestock	8.01	* 8.20	8.43

* Revised.

¹ Excludes AK.

² Benefits, such as housing and meals, are provided some workers but the values are not included in the wage rates.

³ Excludes Agricultural Service Workers.

JUNE RELEASE CALENDAR

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
3 Crop Progress Dairy Products	4	5 Broiler Hatchery	6	7 Poultry Slaughter
10 Crop Progress	11	12 Broiler Hatchery Crop Production	13 Turkey Hatchery	14
17 Crop Progress Milk Production	18	19 Broiler Hatchery	20	21 Chickens & Eggs Livestock Slaughter
24 Crop Progress	25	26 Broiler Hatchery	27 Agricultural Prices	28

FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION, CONTACT RAY GARIBAY, STATE STATISTICIAN AT (410) 841- 5740

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Home Page: <http://www.usda.gov/nass/>